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1978

Waiting For Future, a Play with Music About Youth Unemployment : programme

Irish Democratic Youth Movement

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WAITING FOR FUTURE

**A PLAY WITH MUSIC
ABOUT YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT**

The **Irish Democratic Youth Movement** (I.D.Y.M.) is an organisation of progressive young people which was established at a conference in Dublin in October 1976.

The decision to establish the new movement was taken because it was felt that there was a need for an organisation which would enable young people to make a contribution to the development of progressive politics in this country.

Ireland has a higher percentage of young people in its population than any other country in Europe. One third of the population of this island is aged under 15. Half of the population of the 26 Counties is aged under 25. There are over 700,000 people in the North aged under 25. These figures are expected to continue to increase until the turn of the century.

Youth people North and South, face problems on a scale never seen before. Youth unemployment is at a higher level than at any time since the 1930s. The educational system is totally incapable of catering for the needs of young people, and in urban and rural areas alike, there is an appalling lack of recreational facilities.

In the North people have suffered particularly during the past seven years. Unemployment, the lack of facilities, senseless violence and destruction, sectarian education and ghetto housing systems, have all contributed to driving many young people into the arms of the sectarian murder gangs.

The Irish Democratic Youth Movement is committed to working for the creation of a United Democratic Socialist Republic of Ireland in which the ordinary people will own and control the wealth and resources of the country. To achieve this, it is necessary to educate young people in the principles of Socialist Republicanism and to involve them in the struggle for decent jobs, adequate facilities, a comprehensive system of education, and an end to the unnatural division of young people into two religious camps.

WAITING FOR FUTURE

written by

Kathleen Desmond & Eamonn Smullen

Songs and Lyrics by

Martin Whelan

assisted by

Seamus Phelan Mick Lacy

and

Kathleen Desmond

CAST

Shop assistant	Carol Walsh
Cook	Martha McGrath
Builder	Paddy Redmond
Salesman	Gerry Lynch
Graduate	Mick Maguire
Government Minister	Joe Craig
Business-man	Ernie Holohan
Bishop and Landlord	Thomas O'Mordha
de Valera	Vincent Morley
Big farmer	Seamus Phelan
Little farmer and Doctor	Fergus Whelan
Secretary, Civil Servant and Factory Foreman	Shay Purdue
P.A.Y.E.	Shay Purdue
Atar boy, Fianna boy, EEC buyer, Foreign seller and tough	Pat Querney
American Business-man	Michael Whelan
Future	Anna McGrath

MUSICIANS

Mary Kennedy	Bodhran
Liam Kennedy	Mandolin
Mick Lacy	Banjo
Jim Jordan	Guitar

The action of the play takes place at Quay side North Wall late 1950, and in a Public Park in Dublin on the 1st may 1978.

There will be an interval of 15 minutes

Director	Kathleen Desmond
Production Manager	Eamonn Smullen
Stage Director	Michael Whelan
State Manager	Shay Purdus
Assistant Stage Manager	Pat Querney
Production Assistant	Nuala Monaghan
Wardrobe	Anne Dunne
"	Lorraine King
Make-up	Nuala Goulding
Lighting	Mick Murphy
Sound	Noel Cullen
Sets	Bill Whelan
Props	Colm Kelly
Graphics	Paddy Gillan

The IDYM thanks all those persons who gave their support and assistance in the compiling and staging of this Production. The Project Theatre for their kind co-operation. Sinn Féin The Workers' Party for their backing and support.

Why a Play?

The Irish Democratic Youth Movement asked the Cinema-Theatre Workshop of Sinn Féin The Workers' Party to help produce a play on youth unemployment.

The Cinema-Theatre Workshop is organised by people in the Party who say that a lot of what happens in Irish political and economic life is of such an extraordinary character that it has to be seen to be believed.

When we expose the character of Irish society we want the meaning of what is said to be as clear as crystal; it is not necessary for it to be 'difficult', dull or uninspiring. People will not listen if it is dull.

This play is entertainment; in the traditional spirit of the theatre it wants people to laugh and to cry.

The subject matter of the play — youth unemployment — is a very serious social question, a social evil, in Ireland today. In the play young people look without reverence at the life they are offered when school days are over; they look at a society which is stupid, self-seeking and hypocritical.

The Irish Democratic Youth Movement is organising young people and endeavouring to express their hopes and their anxieties. In this play young people are upon the stage to show what life is like when it offers few prospects or opportunities.

The establishment — Church and State — say many things which may sound wise and reasonable in a stable, prosperous society. In our society youth laughs at conventional wisdom — the lectures about life from people who have little or no personal experience of life's real problems.

**No poverty or war's real education
No people dying from hunger or the cold
And we today did bring about these changes
And break the system and bring Freedom
To the Working Class**